

1. A method for previewing an accessory to be worn by a person, the method comprising:

transmitting data of the first image to a server computer at a second location;

generating data of a composite image from the data of the first image and data of the second image with the server computer, the composite image including the accessory worn on the portion of the person; and

~~displaying the composite image on an output device at the first location.~~

2. The method of claim 1 wherein transmitting data of the first image to a server computer comprises transmitting the data over the Internet.

~~3. The method of claim 1 wherein the accessory is a pair of sunglasses, and wherein the method further comprises displaying a shaded image, wherein a shade of the shaded image corresponds to a shade seen by a person wearing the pair of sunglasses.~~

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4. The method of claim 1 wherein the first image comprises the face of the person, and wherein selecting the second image is performed in accordance with the person's interpupil distance.

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5 5. The method of claim 1 further comprising purchasing the accessory after displaying the composite image.

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6. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

manipulating data of the first image to modify a size of the first image to correspond to a template having a predetermined size, and wherein selecting the second image comprises using the template to select the second image.

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7. The method of claim 1 further comprising.

manipulating data of the first image to modify a size of the first image to correspond to a template having a predetermined size, and wherein generating data of the composite image comprises using data of the template to generate data of the composite image.

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8. The method of claim 1 wherein the accessory comprises sunglasses.

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9. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

20 selecting a third image of a background setting prior to generating data of a composite image, and wherein generating data of a composite image comprises generating data of a composite image from the data of the first image, data of the second image, and data of the third

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image.

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10. The method of claim 1 wherein the input device comprises a digital camera.

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5 11. The method of claim 1 wherein the accessory comprises cosmetics or jewelry.

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12. The method of claim 1 wherein the first location includes a kiosk.

13. A method for previewing an accessory, the method comprising:

providing data of a first image of at least a portion of an intended recipient of the accessory to a server computer;

selecting a second image from an electronic database of images, the second image comprising an image of an accessory to be worn on the portion of the intended recipient in the first image;

generating data of a composite image from the data of the first image and data of the second image with the server computer;

transmitting the data of the composite image from the server computer to a client computer; and

displaying the composite image on an output device in communication with the client computer.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the accessory comprises sunglasses.

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15. The method of claim 13 wherein the output device is located at the customer's home.

16. The method of claim 13 wherein the client computer is located at a kiosk.

5 17. The method of claim 13 further comprising manipulating data of the first image so that the first image is modified and corresponds to a template.

18. The method of claim 17 further comprising selecting plural accessory images from the database with the template and displaying the plural accessory images.

10 19. The method of claim 13 wherein transmitting the data of the composite image from the server computer to the client computer comprises transmitting the data of the composite image from the server computer to the client computer via the Internet.

15 20. The method of claim 19 wherein displaying the composite image on the output device comprises displaying the composite image on a Web page.

21. The method of claim 13 wherein providing data of the first image comprises retrieving data of the first image from an information storage medium on or accessible to the server computer.

20 22. The method of claim 21 wherein the intended recipient of the accessory is a customer.

23. The method of claim 13 wherein the accessory comprises jewelry or cosmetics.

24. The method of claim 13 further comprising manually entering data of an intended recipient's body parameters, selecting a plurality of accessory images from the electronic database of images in accordance with the data of the intended recipient's body parameters, and displaying the plurality of accessory images.

25. A method for previewing an accessory, the method comprising:

generating a first composite image from a first image of a person and a first accessory image;

displaying the first composite image to a customer;

saving the first composite image;

generating a second composite image from a second image of the person and a second accessory image;

displaying the first and second composite images simultaneously to the customer such that the customer can evaluate the appearance of the first and second accessories on the person.

26. The method of claim 25 further comprising displaying a first price corresponding to the first accessory image and a second price corresponding to the second accessory image.

27. The method of claim 25 wherein displaying the first and second composite images comprises: displaying the first and second composite images in a cascading format, a tiled format, or

an overlaid format.

28. The method of claim 25 wherein the first and second accessory images respectively comprise images of different sunglasses.

29. The method of claim 25 wherein the first image of the person and the second image of the person are the same image.

30. The method of claim 25 wherein after saving the first composite image, the method further comprises

evaluating the displayed first and second composite images;

deleting the less favorable composite image of the first and second composite images; and

saving the more favorable composite image of the first and second composite images.

31. The method of claim 30 wherein the more favorable image is saved in a file containing favorable composite images.

32. The method of claim 25 further comprising displaying the price of the first and second accessories.

33. The method of claim 32 wherein the first and second accessories respectively include different pairs of sunglasses.

34. The method of claim 25 wherein the person is the customer.

35. The method of claim 25 wherein the person is a model who has an appearance similar to an intended recipient of the accessory.

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36. A system for previewing an accessory:

an input device for receiving a first image, wherein the first image includes an image of at least a portion of a person;

a client computer operatively coupled to the input device;

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a server computer including a first computer program for selecting data of a second image from an electronic database of images, the second image comprising an image of an accessory to be worn on the portion of the person in the first image, and a second computer program for generating data of a composite image from data of the first image and data of the second image, wherein the server computer is operatively coupled to the client computer; and

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an output device for displaying the composite image, wherein the output device is operatively coupled to the client computer,

wherein the input device, client computer, and the output device are at a first location and ~~wherein the server computer is located at a second location.~~

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37. The system of claim 36 wherein the server computer and the client computer are operatively coupled via the Internet.

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38. The system of claim 36 further comprising a firewall between the server computer and the client computer.

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39. The system of claim 36 further comprising an Internet service provider intermediate the client computer and the server computer.

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40. The system of claim 36 wherein the server computer comprises a third computer program for processing purchases.

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41. The system of claim 36 wherein the accessory comprises sunglasses.

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42. The system of claim 36 wherein the server computer comprises a third computer program for selecting a background image from an electronic database of background images.

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43. A system for previewing an accessory comprising:

an information storage medium comprising a first electronic database of images of people;

a server computer including (i) a first computer program for selecting a first image from the first electronic database, the first image comprising an image of an intended recipient of an accessory, (ii) a second computer program for selecting a second image from a second electronic database, the second image comprising an image of an accessory to be worn on the intended recipient in the first image, and (iii) a third computer program for generating data of a composite image from the data of the first image and data of the second image, wherein the server computer



is operatively coupled to the client computer;

a client computer for receiving the data of the composite image, wherein the client computer is operatively coupled to the server computer; and

an output device for displaying the composite image, wherein the output device is operatively coupled to the client computer.

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44. The system of claim 43 wherein the client computer and the server computer are operatively coupled via the Internet.

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45. The system of claim 43 further comprising an input device operatively coupled to the client computer.

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46. The system of claim 43 wherein the accessory comprises sunglasses.

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47. The system of claim 43 further comprising a kiosk, wherein the client computer is at the kiosk.

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48. The system of claim 43 wherein the server computer further comprises:

a fourth computer program for processing a purchasing transaction.

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49. The system of claim 43 wherein the information storage medium includes two or more databases, each of the databases containing different accessories.

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50. The system of claim 43 wherein the intended recipient is a customer.

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51. A system for previewing an accessory before purchasing the accessory, the system comprising:

5 a server computer comprising (i) a first computer program for selecting data of a first accessory image from an electronic database, (ii) a second computer program for generating data of a first composite image from data of the first accessory image and data of a person's image, (iii) a third computer program for selecting data of a second accessory image from the electronic database, and (iv) a fourth computer program for generating data of a second composite image from data of the second accessory image and data of the person's image;

an information storage medium for saving data of the first composite image, the information storage medium being on or accessible to the server computer;

a client computer operatively coupled with the server computer; and

a display device for displaying the first and second composite images to a customer for

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5 ~~simultaneously previewing accessories before purchasing.~~

52. The system of claim 51 wherein the server computer and the client computer are operatively coupled via the Internet.

20 53. The system of claim 51, wherein the server computer further comprises a fifth computer program for processing the sale of an accessory.

54. The system of claim 51 further comprising a firewall between the server computer and the client computer.

55. The system of claim 51 further comprising an input device operatively coupled to the client computer.

56. The system of claim 51 wherein the client computer is located at a kiosk.

57. The system of claim 56 wherein the kiosk contains accessories for sale.

58. The system of claim 51 wherein the client computer comprises a Web browser computer program.

59. An electronic display screen for assisting a customer to select a desired accessory, the screen comprising:

a previously saved first composite image generated from an image of a person and an image of a first accessory; and

a second composite image generated from an image of the person and an image of a second accessory,

~~wherein the first and second accessories are different.~~

60. The screen of claim 59 wherein the first and second composite images are in a tiled,

cascading, or overlapping format.

61. The screen of claim 59 further comprising an image comprising the prices of the first and second accessories.

62. The screen of claim 59 wherein the person is an intended recipient of an accessory.

63. The screen of claim 59 further comprising a hyperlink.

64. The screen of claim 59 wherein the first composite image and the second composite image are in an array of favorable composite images.

65. The screen of claim 59 further comprising a button for deleting less favorable composite images.

66. The screen of claim 59 wherein the first and second accessories are prescription eyeglasses.

67. The method of claim 1 wherein the accessory is a pair of prescription eyeglasses.


68. The method of claim 13 wherein the accessory is a pair of prescription eyeglasses.

69. The method of claim 25 wherein the first and second accessories are prescription eyeglasses.

70. The system of claim 36 wherein the accessory is a pair of prescription eyeglasses.

71. The system of claim 43 wherein the accessory is a pair of prescription eyeglasses:

5 72. The system of claim 51 wherein the accessory is a pair of prescription eyeglasses.

 73. A method for permitting a customer to preview a pair of sunglasses before purchasing, the method comprising:

providing a first image to an input device operatively coupled to a client computer, the first image including the face of a person;

transforming the first image into data of the first image with the client computer;

transmitting data of the first image from the client computer to a server computer via the Internet;

selecting a second image from an electronic database of images on or accessible to the server computer, the second image comprising an image of a pair of sunglasses;

generating data of a composite image from the data of the first image and data of the second image with the server computer, the composite image including the image of the pair of sunglasses on the face of the person;

transmitting the data of the composite image from the server computer to the client computer via the Internet; and

displaying the composite image on a display device operatively coupled to the client computer such that a customer can preview the sunglasses before purchasing.

wherein the input device, the output device and the client computer are at a first location,  
and wherein the server computer is at a second location.

74. The method of claim 73 further comprises, after displaying the composite image:  
purchasing the pair of sunglasses.

75. The method of claim 73 wherein selecting a second image comprises providing selection  
information to a second input device operatively coupled to the client computer.

76. The method of claim 75 wherein the second input device comprises at least one of a  
keyboard, a touchpad, a touchscreen, a voice recognition apparatus, and a mouse.

17. A method for permitting a customer to preview a pair of sunglasses before purchasing, the  
method comprising:

providing a first image to an input device operatively coupled to a client computer, the  
first image including the face of a person;

transforming the first image into data of the first image with the client computer;

transmitting data of the first image from the client computer to a server computer via the  
Internet;

selecting a second image from an electronic database of images on or accessible to the  
server computer, the second image comprising an image of a pair of sunglasses;

~~generating data of a composite image from the data of the first image and data of the~~

second image with the server computer, the composite image including the image of the pair of sunglasses on the face of the person;

transmitting the data of the composite image from the server computer to the client computer via the Internet; and

displaying the composite image on a display device operatively coupled to the client computer such that a customer can preview the accessory before purchasing,

wherein the client computer, the input device and the output device are at a kiosk.

78. A method for permitting a customer to preview and purchase accessories, the method comprising:

providing an image of an intended recipient of an accessory to an input device;

displaying plural accessory images to the customer for evaluation;

selecting an accessory image from the displayed accessory images;

displaying a composite image comprising the selected accessory image on the intended recipient of the accessory;

evaluating the composite image; and

purchasing the accessory in the selected accessory image.

79. The method of claim 78 wherein selecting an accessory image is performed at a kiosk.

80. A method for previewing an accessory, the method comprising:

providing data of a first image of at least a portion of a person to a server computer;

selecting a second image from an electronic database of images, the second image comprising an image of an accessory to be worn on the portion of the person in the first image, wherein the accessory is at least one of sunglasses, jewelry, handbags, and cosmetics;

generating data of a composite image from the data of the first image and data of the second image with the server computer, the composite image comprising the accessory on the person; and

displaying the composite image on an output device in communication with the client computer.

81. The method of claim 80 wherein the person is a model who has an appearance substantially similar to the appearance of the intended recipient.

82. The method of claim 1 wherein the output device is capable of displaying a three-dimensional image.

83. The method of claim 1 wherein the output device comprises a holographic display apparatus or a virtual reality apparatus.